

CLAIMS

1. A print control device for controlling a printer engine that prints contents based on print data indicating the contents to be printed, comprising:

5 a division unit operable to obtain the print data from outside the print control device, and to divide the obtained print data into a plurality of files;

a storage unit having an area for storing the files;

10 a read and write unit operable to write, into the storage unit, the plurality of files obtained by the dividing performed by the division unit, and to read out the plurality of files stored in the storage unit that correspond to the print data;

15 a detection unit operable to detect, on a file-by-file basis, whether or not the reading has been successfully performed by the read and write unit; and

a file processing unit operable to output, to the printer engine, a file that has been detected by the detection unit as being read out successfully, and to cause the printer engine to print contents included in the file that has been detected as being read out
20 successfully, out of the contents included in the print data.

2. The print control device according to Claim 1,

25 wherein the division unit divides the obtained print data into individual pages so as to generate, as one file, each information included in each of the pages.

3. The print control device according to Claim 2, further comprising

30 an error file processing unit operable to cause the printer engine to perform a predetermined process on a file that has been detected by the detection unit as not being read out successfully.

4. The print control device according to Claim 3,
wherein as the predetermined process, the error file
processing unit causes the printer engine to output a page as a blank
page, said page corresponding to the file that has not been read out
5 successfully.

5. The print control device according to Claim 3,
wherein as the predetermined process, the error file
processing unit causes the printer engine to print a message onto a
10 page corresponding to the file that has not been read out
successfully, said message informing a user that the print data
cannot be read out successfully.

6. The print control device according to Claim 3,
15 wherein as the predetermined process, the error file
processing unit prohibits the printer engine from outputting a page
corresponding to the file that has not been read out successfully.

7. The print control device according to Claim 3, further
20 comprising
a process selection unit operable to prompt a user to select a
process to be performed on the file that has been detected by the
detection unit as not being read out successfully,
wherein the error file processing unit causes the printer
25 engine to perform the process selected by the user via the process
selection unit.

8. The print control device according to Claim 7,
wherein the process selection unit presents, as a candidate
30 for the selection, that the contents read out by the read and write
unit should be forcefully printed for the file that has not been read
out successfully.

9. The print control device according to Claim 2,
wherein the division unit (i) obtains the print data from
outside the print control device, and when any of the pages included
5 in the print data is specified, (ii) generates information included
only in the specified page as a file, out of all information included in
the obtained print data, and

the read and write unit writes said generated file into the
storage unit.

10. The print control device according to Claim 9,
wherein the detection unit specifies, to the division unit, a
page corresponding to a file that has been found as not being read
out successfully as a result of the detection, and

15 the read and write unit writes, into the storage unit, the file
that is generated by the division unit based on the specification, so
that said generated file replaces the file that has not been read out
successfully.

20 11. The print control device according to Claim 1,
wherein the division unit divides the obtained print data into
individual areas smaller than page so as to generate, as one file,
each information included in each of the areas.

25 12. A print control method for controlling a printer engine that
prints contents based on print data indicating the contents to be
printed, the method comprising:

a division step of obtaining the print data from outside a print
control device, and dividing the obtained print data into a plurality of
30 files;

a write step of writing, into a memory, the plurality of files
obtained by the dividing performed in the division step;

a read step of reading out, from the memory, the plurality of files that correspond to the print data;

a detection step of detecting, on a file-by-file basis, whether or not the reading has been successfully performed in the read step;

5 and

a file processing step of outputting, to the printer engine, a file that has been detected in the detection step as being read out successfully, and causing the printer engine to print contents included in the file, out of the contents included in the print data.

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13. The print control method according to Claim 12, wherein in the division step, the obtained print data is divided into individual pages so as to generate, as one file, each information included in each of the pages.

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14. The print control method according to Claim 13, further comprising

an error file processing step of causing the printer engine to perform a predetermined process on a file that has been detected in the detection step as not being read out successfully.

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15. The print control method according to Claim 14, wherein in the error file processing step, the printer engine is caused, as the predetermined process, to output a page as a blank page, said page corresponding to the file that has not been read out successfully.

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16. The print control method according to Claim 14, wherein in the error file processing step, the printer engine is caused, as the predetermined process, to print a message onto a page corresponding to the file that has not been read out successfully, said message informing a user that the print data

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cannot be read out successfully.

17. The print control method according to Claim 14,
wherein in the error file processing step, the printer engine is
5 prohibited, as the predetermined process, from outputting a page
corresponding to the file that has not been read out successfully.

18. The print control method according to Claim 12,
wherein in the division step, the obtained print data is divided
10 into individual areas smaller than page so as to generate, as one file,
each information included in each of the areas.

19. A program for controlling a printer engine that prints contents
based on print data indicating the contents to be printed, the
15 program causing a computer to execute:

a division step of obtaining the print data from outside a print
control device, and dividing the obtained print data into a plurality of
files;

a write step of writing, into a memory, the plurality of files
20 obtained by the dividing performed in the division step;

a read step of reading out, from the memory, the plurality of
files that correspond to the print data;

a detection step of detecting, on a file-by-file basis, whether
or not the reading has been successfully performed in the read step;
25 and

a file processing step of outputting, to the printer engine, a
file that has been detected in the detection step as being read out
successfully, and causing the printer engine to print contents
included in the file, out of the contents included in the print data.

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20. The program according to Claim 19,
wherein in the division step, the obtained print data is divided

into individual pages so as to generate, as one file, each information included in each of the pages.

21. The program according to Claim 20, further causing the
5 computer to execute

an error file processing step of causing the printer engine to perform a predetermined process on a file that has been detected in the detection step as not being read out successfully.

10 22. The program according to Claim 21,
wherein in the error file processing step, the printer engine is caused, as the predetermined process, to output a page as a blank page, said page corresponding to the file that has not been read out successfully.

15 23. The program according to Claim 21,
wherein in the error file processing step, the printer engine is caused, as the predetermined process, to print a message onto a page corresponding to the file that has not been read out
20 successfully, said message informing a user that the print data cannot be read out successfully.

24. The program according to Claim 19,
wherein in the division step, the obtained print data is divided
25 into individual areas smaller than page so as to generate, as one file, each information included in each of the areas.

25. A printer comprising:
a printer engine that prints contents based on print data
30 indicating the contents to be printed; and
a print control device that controls the printer engine,
wherein the print control device includes:

a division unit operable to obtain the print data from outside the print control device, and to divide the obtained print data into a plurality of files;

a storage unit having an area for storing the files;

5 a read and write unit operable to write, into the storage unit, the plurality of files obtained by the dividing performed by the division unit, and to read out the plurality of files stored in the storage unit that correspond to the print data;

10 a detection unit operable to detect, on a file-by-file basis, whether or not the reading has been successfully performed by the read and write unit; and

a file processing unit operable to output, to the printer engine, a file that has been detected by the detection unit as being read out successfully, and to cause the printer engine to print contents
15 included in the file, out of the contents included in the print data.

26. The printer according to Claim 25,
wherein the division unit divides the obtained print data into individual pages so as to generate, as one file, each information
20 included in each of the pages.

27. The printer according to Claim 26,
wherein the print control device further includes
an error file processing unit operable to cause the printer
25 engine to perform a predetermined process on a file that has been detected by the detection unit as not being read out successfully.

28. The printer according to Claim 27,
wherein as the predetermined process, the error file
30 processing unit causes the printer engine to output a page as a blank page, said page corresponding to the file that has not been read out successfully.

29. The printer according to Claim 27,

5 wherein as the predetermined process, the error file processing unit causes the printer engine to print a message onto a page corresponding to the file that has not been read out successfully, said message informing a user that the print data cannot be read out successfully.

30. The printer according to Claim 25,

10 wherein the division unit divides the obtained print data into individual areas smaller than page so as to generate, as one file, each information included in each of the areas.